

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

possible mileage of well-located, carefully built roads wide enough for one-way traffic with adequate turnouts. It seeks to make the forest accessible by roads that fit well into the forest picture and that are well maintained and at all times open and safe for public use. It makes no pretense of providing a boulevard system, which would here constitute unsound business management and often do violence to forest aesthetics and good forestry practice.



A section of the Mena-Shady Road

While the fire menace is still most severe, the annual acreage burned is steadily decreasing and public sentiment is beginning to condemn and outlaw the old woods-burning practice and the careless use of fire. Many settlers now lend valued cooperation in fire control. Good roads and trails have made the major portion of the forest accessible. An extensive Forest Service telephone system serves well the purposes of protection and administration, and serves also the local farms and settlements. With reduced fire damage, timber production has improved. The timber is growing at an annual rate of perhaps 75 to 100 board feet per acre. With fires banished from the woods, the annual growth should exceed 150 board feet per acre. The stands of timber have been cruised, estimated, classified, and made ready for the perpetual harvest. Receipts have grown from \$1,000 in 1908 to more than \$100,000 in 1926, and it is not at all unreasonable to expect a continued increase to perhaps \$200,000 per

year under complete forest management and use. These growing receipts are making large amounts available to the counties for schools and roads. Assuming expenditures of \$16 to \$20 per thousand board feet to harvest and deliver lumber at the shipping point, the present annual cut of 14 million feet on Ouachita National Forest means local expenditures of about a quarter of a million dollars each year for labor and supplies. The fruits of this growing industry are more employment for local labor, better markets for the farmer, better business for the merchant. Every citizen, every civic project, shares beneficially. Ouachita is one of the several national forests for which the 67 per cent of gross receipts constituting the annual return to the Federal treasury already exceeds the ordinary cost of protection and administration.

RECREATION

With the protection and economic development of Ouachita National Forest well established and driving steadily forward, it is time to bring into more prominence a rather new but undeniably important use of this great outdoor property. The eyes of the people of Arkansas, northeastern Texas, and northern Louisiana turn naturally to the Ouachita Mountain region, one day's automobile drive or less away, as an ideal place for a summer vacation. And this is as it should be. Here is a land of noble hills, high and cool when the lowlands swelter, and rich in forest beauty, in every outdoor charm. In public ownership, the forest is under a form of administration that invites its use for recreation. It has pure and plentiful water, and shady woods in splendid variety. It is easily accessible, and its highways and byways lead to numberless points of interest.

POINTS OF INTEREST

On or near Ouachita National Forest are many mineral springs of known medicinal values. The most famous of these are the Hot Springs in Hot Springs National Park, within 10 miles of the forest boundary. From Hot Springs National Park as a starting point one may visit other well-known springs, such as Mountain Valley, Ozark Lithia, Potash Sulphur, and Mud Springs. Other springs of more local reputation are McFadden near Hawes, Blanco near Cedar Glades, Crystal Springs at Crystal Springs and Gilham Springs, all within easy reach.

A short drive from Hot Springs National Park takes one into Crystal Mountain Range, which receives its name from the abundance of rock crystals found in veins in the quartose sand-

stones of which the mountains are composed. It is in these mountains that the famous "Hot Springs crystals" or "Hot Springs diamonds" are found. For the vigorous, a stiff climb to the top of a ridge may yield a well-formed crystal or two; others can obtain crystals from wayside vendors.

Mena, in the heart of the Ouachita Mountains, is a rendezvous during the summer months for hundreds of health and pleasure seekers from the hot southern portion of Arkansas and from Texas and Louisiana. These visitors enjoy daily outings in Ouachita National Forest. Of interest in this vicinity is a drive over the Mena-Shady road through the forest to the Mine Creek Camp and Little Missouri Falls, or a visit to Bethesda Springs or Standing Rock. For those who like to climb there is Mena Peak, just outside of Mena, and Lofty Buck Knob, or Eagle Mountain. The last two have lookout towers from which an excellent view may be had of roll upon roll of the numerous ridges and valleys of the Ouachita Mountain region, and the Piedmont Plateau to the south. On clear days the Ozark Mountains, north of the Arkansas River, may be seen piling up on the horizon.

Of historical interest is the mountain retreat of Albert Pike, the master genius of Masonry. On a farm at the foot of Pryor Mountain, purchased by Pike in 1856, he wrote three books including "Morals and Dogma," a compilation of Masonic philosophy. Pike was driven away from his mountain retreat by a guerrilla band, which destroyed his belongings and threw all the books of his large library into the river. The old house stood until a few years ago.

Booneville, in the Petit Jean Valley, is the northern gateway to the Ouachita National Forest. The beautiful Sugar Creek area of the Ouachita Forest is easily reached by automobile road from Booneville. Here an excellent view of the Arkansas Valley and the Ouachita Mountains can be had from White Oak Mountain, towering 2,200 feet. Petit Jean Trail along the top of the Petit Jean Mountain offers a delightful trip for those who travel afoot or horseback.

EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS

GUARD AGAINST STREAM POLLUTION



Even he who must chop the wood enjoys life in the open with family and friends

FOR THE CAMPERS

For those who enjoy their outings best with rustling canvas for shelter and the odor of wood smoke and coffee for an appetizer, Ouachita National Forest offers the Mine Creek Camp, the Iron Spring Camp, and the Cold Springs Camp. The Mine Creek Camp is easily reached via the Mena-Shady road, while access to the Iron Spring Camp is by way of the Fourche River road from Hot Springs National Park. The Cold Springs Camp is accessible by automobile roads from Waldron or Booneville. No charge is made for the use of the forest camps, improved by the Forest Service for public enjoyment. All that is asked of campers is that they be careful with fire, dispose of papers and trash, and observe other good sanitary practices. Opportunities abound for the development of municipal camps, for summer encampments of Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y. M. C. A., and similar organizations, for commercial camps of boys and girls, and for hotel and resort developments.

THE FOREST IS THE NATURAL HABITAT OF GAME AND BIRD LIFE. KEEP THE FOREST FREE OF FIRE. GIVE THE GAME A CHANCE



Summer Homes

Attractive summer home sites where the lessee may build his own cabin or cottage and return to his own forest nook summer after summer are plentifully available on leases at low rates. Those wishing to lease sites should apply to the forest supervisor at Hot Springs National Park, Ark.

FISH AND GAME IN THE FOREST

The clear streams of Ouachita National Forest were doubtless once teaming with fish, but are so no more. It is in this section that the small-mouthed black bass is making his greatest fight against extermination. All fishing is poor compared with what it should be. Repeated forest fires have played their sorry part in bringing about this condition, as have dynamiting, rifle fishing, stream poisoning, and other criminal methods of taking fish. Above all, too much fishing and no thought of conservation are responsible. This situation can be remedied by the cooperation of anglers and the general public in systematic stream stocking and in the prevention of excessive fishing and other abuses.

Ouachita National Forest is good game country throughout. Splendid cover, bounteous food, plentiful supply of pure water, and a favorable climate make game propagation and maintenance simple if the kill is controlled. Establishment of game refuges within Ouachita National Forest is an essential feature of wild life conservation. Organized cooperation of local sportsmen is needed in stocking refuges and in keeping them inviolate as breeding grounds the overflow from which will restore in goodly numbers the wild life in the surrounding hunting grounds.



At home in the forest

FOREST FIRES

A forest fire is usually the result of carelessness or of deliberate intent. In the last 5 years 8 fires a year in the Ouachita Forest were caused by lightning, while man-caused fires, by intent or through carelessness, averaged 392 a year.

Man-caused fires could be prevented except for the thoughtlessness and indifference of forest residents, transients, and forest users.

WHAT FIRE DOES

The Ouachita Mountains owe much of their charm to the forests. Fire destroys this charm; a burn is a blot and a scar on the landscape. Forest fires destroy more game than all other destructive agencies combined. The fish disappear when the stream flow is seriously affected by destruction of the forested watersheds.

Experienced stockmen find that stock do better on unburned range, the early spring food consisting of both new and old growth.

Every woods fire does damage. Fire scars make cull lumber. The lightest surface fires destroy tree seeds and small seedlings, the basis for a new crop of trees.

Continued woods burning results in the drying up of streams, springs, and wells during the summer and in irregular and impure water supply for home use; it hastens erosion, floods, and the destruction of rich bottom-land farms during rainy periods.

"And, when the fury of the fiend was spent,
Burned out the fullness of its torrid wrath,
It left behind a devastated path—
To human carelessness a monument."

—DOUGLAS MALLOCH.

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

ARKANSAS



The Falls of the Little Missouri River

This folder contains a map of the National Forest and adjacent areas, with information about its timber, water, forage, and recreational resources.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

ISSUED 1927

EASTERN DISTRICT

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1927

AUG 8 1944

(9)

(10)

(11)

(12)

(13)

(14)

(8)

(7)

(6)

(5)

(4)

(3)

(2)

When the present system of protection, administration, and development was applied to Ouachita National Forest in 1907, the property suffered the ravages of fire, year in, year out. Its remaining resources were inaccessible. Roads were barely passable; there was no forest trail system, no telephone communication. Productivity was at a low ebb. The Forest Service launched at once its program of protection and development, and after twenty years Ouachita National Forest is today well on the way to maximum public service. In the development of the national forest roads, the Forest Service seeks primarily the largest system, except in the major highway projects, the Forest Service seeks primarily the largest system, except in the major highway projects, the Forest Service seeks primarily the largest system, except in the major highway projects.

TWO DECADES OF PROGRESS

The Forest Service has built within Ouachita National Forest 174 miles of roads and 370 miles of trails. In addition to the 27 per cent of gross forest receipts, which each year is returned to the counties for road and school purposes, 10 per cent is set aside and used by the Forest Service in the construction and maintenance within the forest of roads and trails designed primarily to promote better protection, to open up new resources for use, to facilitate administration, and to serve the forest residents and communities. Ouachita National Forest has also shared very materially in the various Federal aid road appropriations since 1916. To June 30, 1926, allotments to Ouachita from such appropriations exceeded \$400,000, and it is largely through the use of these funds that the marked development of primary and secondary roads within the forest has been possible.

The Forest Service has built within Ouachita National Forest 174 miles of roads and 370 miles of trails. In addition to the 27 per cent of gross forest receipts, which each year is returned to the counties for road and school purposes, 10 per cent is set aside and used by the Forest Service in the construction and maintenance within the forest of roads and trails designed primarily to promote better protection, to open up new resources for use, to facilitate administration, and to serve the forest residents and communities. Ouachita National Forest has also shared very materially in the various Federal aid road appropriations since 1916. To June 30, 1926, allotments to Ouachita from such appropriations exceeded \$400,000, and it is largely through the use of these funds that the marked development of primary and secondary roads within the forest has been possible.

at present in all portions of the forest, but less crop itself. There is abundant range available to forest growth and overgrazing of the forage encouraged, but so regulated as to prevent damage to livestock. The grazing of the forest by live-stock owned by local people is permitted and encouraged. The grazing of the forest by live-stock owned by local people is permitted and encouraged. The grazing of the forest by live-stock owned by local people is permitted and encouraged.

LIVESTOCK ON THE FOREST

The forested watersheds of Ouachita National Forest exercise a highly beneficial influence on the construction and maintenance within the forest of roads and trails designed primarily to promote better protection, to open up new resources for use, to facilitate administration, and to serve the forest residents and communities. Ouachita National Forest has also shared very materially in the various Federal aid road appropriations since 1916. To June 30, 1926, allotments to Ouachita from such appropriations exceeded \$400,000, and it is largely through the use of these funds that the marked development of primary and secondary roads within the forest has been possible.

THE FOREST WATERSHEDS

The forested watersheds of Ouachita National Forest exercise a highly beneficial influence on the construction and maintenance within the forest of roads and trails designed primarily to promote better protection, to open up new resources for use, to facilitate administration, and to serve the forest residents and communities. Ouachita National Forest has also shared very materially in the various Federal aid road appropriations since 1916. To June 30, 1926, allotments to Ouachita from such appropriations exceeded \$400,000, and it is largely through the use of these funds that the marked development of primary and secondary roads within the forest has been possible.

The age-old forest of shortleaf pine. A product—equal in grade—comparably free from defects. Keep it out and let the forest grow dollars for schools and roads.



THE TIMBER OF THE FOREST

Ouachita National Forest is primarily a forest of maximum service and benefit to the public. who earnestly strive to make this public property get in touch with the supervisor or the ranger, for action. Visitors to the forest will do well to people directly affected, all matters arising from the national forests as close as possible to the Service policy of bringing the administration of leaves a thrifty, well-spaced stand of growing timber for future marketing. As the stand is removed to the remaining forest are cut. This ripe trees, defective trees, and trees that are detrimental to the remaining forest are cut. Only are carefully selected by a forest officer. Only scenic and esthetic values. The trees to be cut also given to avoiding unnecessary sacrifice of more rapid growth of timber. Due attention is

AREA AND ADMINISTRATION OF OUACHITA AND NATIONAL FOREST

The national forest system was initiated in 1891 in the vast public domain of the West. The national forest system was initiated in 1891 in the vast public domain of the West. The national forest system was initiated in 1891 in the vast public domain of the West. The national forest system was initiated in 1891 in the vast public domain of the West.

The only evidence that the Ouachita National Forest is a part of the Nation's resources of wealth and beauty is the fact that it is a part of the Nation's resources of wealth and beauty. The only evidence that the Ouachita National Forest is a part of the Nation's resources of wealth and beauty is the fact that it is a part of the Nation's resources of wealth and beauty.



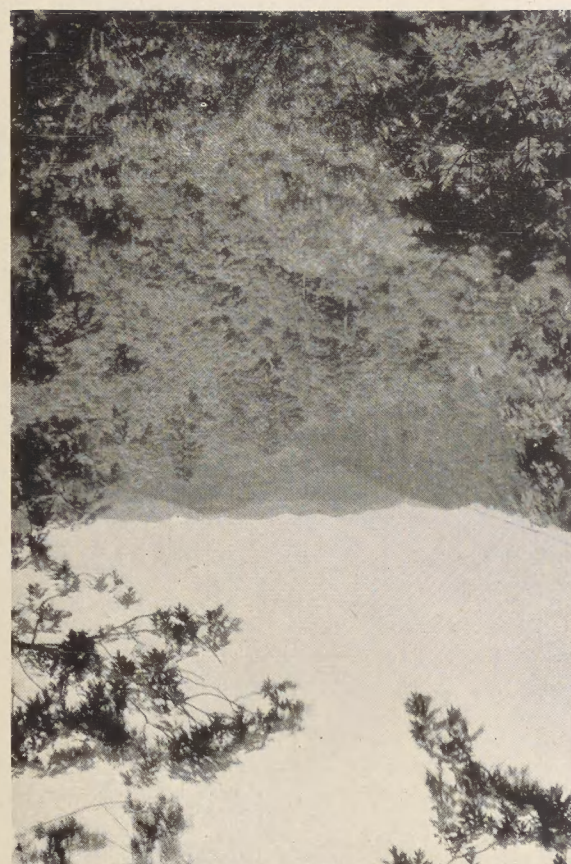
PREVENT FIRE IN THE FOREST

1. MATCHES. Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before throwing it away. 2. TOBACCO. Throw pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stumps in the dust of the road and stamp out any fire. Do not throw them into brush, leaves, or needles. 3. MAKING CAMP. Build only a small camp fire. Build it in the open, not against a tree or log or near brush. Scrape away the trash from around it.

After the purchase of the Louisiana Territory in 1803, English-speaking settlers from Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, and Missouri began to come in. By 1819 there were large settlements near what is now Dardanelle, and at Hot Springs, Fort Smith, and Benton. By the close of the Civil War the main agricultural valleys were largely settled. They have since developed steadily in agriculture, industry, and commerce.

Hernando de Soto was the first white man to penetrate this mountain fastness of the Quapaw Indians. Crossing the Mississippi into Arkansas in 1541 with a small band of explorers, he traveled up the Arkansas River valley. While on this trip, De Soto was stricken with illness. He died at the mouth of the Arkansas River. He was buried there. His body was found in 1908. It was the first white man to be buried in Arkansas.

HIGH LIGHTS OF REGIONAL HISTORY



Ouachita National Forest is one of 160 national forests located in 28 States, Alaska and Porto Rico. These forests include more than 158,000,000 acres of Government-owned land and then sloping off to low gaps through which mountain roads and trails find passage across the country.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS ARE PUBLIC PROPERTY

Ouachita National Forest is one of 160 national forests located in 28 States, Alaska and Porto Rico. These forests include more than 158,000,000 acres of Government-owned land and then sloping off to low gaps through which mountain roads and trails find passage across the country.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
W. B. GREELEY, FORESTER

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

ARKANSAS

T. 4. S. FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

1927

Scale 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

	National Forest Boundary		Supervisor's Headquarters
	Main motor highway		Ranger station
	Road, fair or good		Telephone station
	Road, minor or very poor		Lookout tower
	Trail		Lookout point
	Railroad		Guard Cabin
	Triangulation station		
	House, cabin, or other building		
	National Forest Land and Land Being Acquired		